



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

APPLICANTS: Helmut BARFUSS et al CONFIRMATION NO.: 6704
SERIAL NO.: 10/722,225 GROUP ART UNIT: 2621
FILED: November 25, 2003
TITLE: "METHOD AND MEDICAL DEVICE FOR THE AUTOMATIC DETERMINATION OF COORDINATES OF IMAGES OF MARKS IN A VOLUME DATASET"

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

SIR:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants request that citation and examination of the following documents be made during the course of examination of the above-referenced application for United States Letters Patent.

AA United States Patent No. 6,052,477
AB United States Patent No. 5,799,099
AC United States Patent No. 5,769,789
AL German OS 199 51 502
AM German PS 44 35 796
AN PCT Application WO 02/43007
AU "Digital Picture Processing," Rosenfeld et al (1982), pages 37-49.
AV "International Organizations For Standardization, Standards of JTC 1/SC 31"

AW "Volume Registration by Surface Point Signature and Mutual Information Maximization with Applications in Intra-Operative MRI Surgeries," Eldev et al, Proc. Int. Conf. On Image Processing, Vol. 1 (2000) pages 200-203.

AX "Image Processing and Display of 3D of Intra-Coronary Ultrasound Images," Herrington et al, Proc. Computers in Cardiology (1991) pages 349-352.

EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE

References AA, AB, AC, AL, AM, AU and AV were identified and discussed in the present specification, and Applicants stand by the statements in the specification concerning the teachings of those references.

For the references that are in English, no further commentary concerning their teachings is necessary.

Reference AL corresponds to copending application Serial No. 09/605,213, filed January 28, 2000, and assigned to the same assignee (Siemens AG) as the present application. That application is pending in Group Art Unit 3737, and Applicants assume the Examiner has access to this copending application and therefore have not burdened the present file with a duplicate copy. If the Examiner nevertheless would prefer that a copy be provided, the Examiner is requested to notify the undersigned counsel for the Applicants, and a copy will be submitted.

Additionally, an English language abstract is attached to Reference AL.

An English translation of Reference AM is not readily available to the Applicants, however, an English language abstract is attached thereto, for use in addition to the aforementioned statements in the present specification.

References AL, AN, AW and AX were cited by the German Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the counterpart German application. Reference



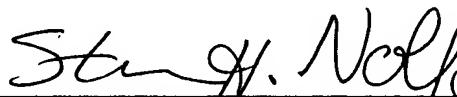
has been discussed above, and since the other references are in English, no further commentary concerning their teachings is necessary.

Copies of each of the above references together with Form 1449 are submitted herewith.

As of the date of mailing of this Information Disclosure Statement, a first Office Action on the merits has not been received in connection with this application. This Information Disclosure Statement is therefore in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), and no fee is necessary.

All claims of the application are submitted to be patentable over the teachings of the above references, taken singly or in combination. Early consideration of the application is therefore respectfully requested.

Submitted by,

 (Reg. 28,982)

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on April 26, 2004.


STEVEN H. NOLL



Sheet 1 of 1

PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (use several sheets if necessary)					Docket No. P03,0443	Serial No. 10/722,225	
					Applicant Helmut BARFUSS et al		
					Filing Date November 25, 2003	Group Art Unit 2621	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner's Initials		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If appropriate
	AA	6,052,477	04/18/00	Wang et al.			
	AB	5,799,099	08/25/98	Wang et al.			
	AC	5,769,789	06/23/98	Wang et al			
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation Yes No
	AL	199 51 502	01/18/01	Germany			
	AM	44 35 796	12/07/96	Germany			
	AN	WO 02/43007	05/30/02	PCT			
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						
OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	AT						
	AU'	"Digital Picture Processing," Rosenfeld et al (1982), pages 37-49.					
	AV'	"International Organizations For Standardization, Standards of JTC 1/SC 31"					
	AW'	"Volume Registration by Surface Point Signature and Mutual Information Maximization with Applications in Intra-Operative MRI Surgeries," Eldev et al, Proc. Int. Conf. On Image Processing, Vol. 1 (2000) pages 200-203.					
	AX'	"Image Processing and Display of 3D of Intra-Coronary Ultrasound Images," Herrington et al, Proc. Computers in Cardiology (1991) pages 349-352.					
	AY						
	AZ						
Examiner			Date Considered				
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							